

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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IN RE:

MDL No. 2859

ZIMMER M/L TAPER HIP PROSTHESIS OR M/L TAPER  
HIP PROSTHESIS WITH KINECTIV TECHNOLOGY AND  
VERSYSFEMORAL HEAD PRODUCTS LIABILITY  
LITIGATION

18-MD-2859 (PAC)  
18-MC-2859 (PAC)

**SHORT FORM  
COMPLAINT**

*This Document Relates to All Actions*

**Individual Case #  
1:20-cv-3609**

*Linda B. Panebianco et al v. Zimmer, Inc., Zimmer US, Inc.,  
Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc. f/k/a Zimmer Holdings, Inc.*  
-----X

1. Plaintiffs, Linda B. Panebianco and Antonio Panebianco, state and bring this civil action in MDL No. 2859, entitled *In Re: Zimmer M/L Taper Hip Prosthesis or M/L Taper Hip Prosthesis with Kinectiv Technology and Versys Femoral Head Products Liability Litigation*, against Defendants Zimmer, Inc., Zimmer US, Inc., and Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.

2. Plaintiffs are filing this Short Form Complaint as permitted by this Court's Case Management Order 9, dated February 7, 2019, and hereby incorporates the Master Long Form Complaint filed in MDL No. 2859 by reference.

**PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3. Plaintiff, Linda B. Panebianco, is a resident and citizen of the State of Pennsylvania and claims damages as set forth below.

4. Plaintiff's Spouse, Antonio Panebianco, is a resident and citizen of the State of Pennsylvania, and claims damages as set forth below. *[Cross out Spousal Claim if not applicable.]*

5. Venue of this case is appropriate in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Plaintiff states that but for the Order permitting directly filing into the Southern District of New York pursuant to Case Management Order 9, Plaintiff would have filed in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Therefore, Plaintiff respectfully requests that at the time of transfer of this action back to the trial court for further proceedings that this case be transferred to the above referenced District Court.

6. Plaintiff brings this action *[check the applicable designation]*:

  X   On behalf of himself/herself;

       In a representative capacity as the        of the        having been duly appointed as the        by the        Court of       . A copy of the Letters of Administration for a wrongful death claim is annexed hereto if such letters are required for the commencement of such a claim by the Probate, Surrogate or other appropriate court of the jurisdiction of the decedent. *[Cross out if not applicable.]*

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

#### **ALLEGATIONS AS TO LEFT-SIDE IMPLANT/EXPLANT SURGERY(IES):**

12. Plaintiff was implanted with a Versys Femoral Head in his/her left hip on or about Nov. 3, 2011, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, in Allentown, Pennsylvania, by Dr. Podromos Ververeli.

13. Plaintiff was implanted with the following femoral stem during the implantation surgery:

       Zimmer M/L Taper

  X   Zimmer M/L Taper with Kinectiv Technology

14. Plaintiff had the following left hip components explanted on or about August 8,

2018, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, in Allentown, Pennsylvania, again by Dr. Podromos Ververeli.

☒ Versys femoral head  
☐ Zimmer M/L Taper  
☒ Zimmer M/L Taper with Kinectiv Technology

**ALLEGATIONS AS TO INJURIES**

17. (a) Plaintiff claims damages as a result of (check all that are applicable):

☒ INJURY TO HERSELF/HIMSELF  
☒ INJURY TO THE PERSON REPRESENTED  
☐ WRONGFUL DEATH  
☐ SURVIVORSHIP ACTION  
☒ ECONOMIC LOSS

(b) Plaintiff's spouse claims damages as a result of (check all that are applicable):

*[Cross out if not applicable.]*

☒ LOSS OF SERVICES  
☒ LOSS OF CONSORTIUM

18. Plaintiff has suffered injuries as a result of implantation of the Devices at issue manufactured by the Defendants as shall be fully set forth in Plaintiff's anticipated Amended Complaint if chosen for bellwether consideration, as well as in Plaintiff's Fact Sheet and other responsive documents provided to the Defendant and are incorporated by reference herein.

19. Plaintiff has suffered injuries as a result of the explantation of the Devices at issue manufactured by the Defendants as shall be fully set forth in Plaintiff's anticipated Amended Complaint if chosen for bellwether consideration, as well as in Plaintiff's Fact Sheet and other responsive documents provided to the Defendant and are incorporated by reference herein. *[Cross*

*out if not applicable.]*

20. Defendants, by their actions or inactions, proximately caused the injuries to Plaintiff(s).

21. Due to the nature of the defect, Plaintiff(s) could not have known that the injuries he/she suffered were as a result of a defect in the Devices at issue at the time they were implanted or for any period afterwards until the defect was actually discovered by Plaintiff(s).

**CASE-SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS AND THEORIES OF RECOVERY**

22. The following claims and allegations are asserted by Plaintiff(s) and are herein adopted by reference from the Master Long Form Complaint (check all that are applicable):

- ☒ COUNT I - NEGLIGENCE;
- ☒ COUNT II - NEGLIGENCE PER SE;
- ☒ COUNT III - STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY - DEFECTIVE DESIGN;
- ☒ COUNT IV - STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY – MANUFACTURING DEFECT;
- ☒ COUNT V - STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY- FAILURE TO WARN;
- ☒ COUNT VI - BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY;
- ☒ COUNT VII- BREACH OF WARRANTY AS TO MERCHANTABILITY;
- ☒ COUNT VIII - BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES;
- ☒ COUNT IX - VIOLATION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION LAWS
- ☒ COUNT X –NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION
- ☒ COUNT XI- FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT
- ☒ COUNT XII - UNJUST ENRICHMENT

X   COUNT XIII – LOSS OF CONSORTIUM

       COUNT XIV – WRONGFUL DEATH

       COUNT XV- SURVIVAL ACTION

In addition to the above, Plaintiff(s) assert the following additional causes of action under applicable state law:

  X   PUNITIVES DAMAGES

       OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff(s) pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:

1. For compensatory damages requested and according to proof;
2. For all applicable statutory damages of the state whose laws will govern this action;
3. For an award of attorneys' fees and costs;
4. For prejudgment interest and costs of suit;
5. Exemplary damages;
6. For restitution and disgorgement of profits; and,
7. For such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

**JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff(s) hereby demand(s) a trial by jury as to all claims in this action.

Date: May 8, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

JONES WARD PLC

/s/ Alex C. Davis

Alex C. Davis

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